

REMEDICATION AND REDEVELOPMENT (RR) NEWS FROM WISCONSIN DNR  
September 9, 1999

NRB ADOPTS DRY CLEANER ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE RULE

On August 25, 1999 the Natural Resources Board (NRB) adopted ch. NR 169, the Dry Cleaner Environmental Response Program rule. This program was developed by the dry cleaning industry to reimburse dry cleaners for some of their eligible cleanup costs for soil or groundwater contamination. The program is funded by a 1.8% fee on dry cleaning gross receipts and a fee on solvent use for dry cleaning activities. The rule will now go to the Legislature for review. It will become effective after the biennial budget is signed into law, so that statutory changes in the budget can be immediately incorporated into the rule. DNR is developing a series of fact sheets and application forms for this program. Each licensed dry cleaner will be sent a packet of all fact sheets and application forms. The information will also be put on the RR program web page. The rule language adopted by the NRB is on our web page at [http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/dryclean/nr169\\_temp.pdf](http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/rr/financial/dryclean/nr169_temp.pdf)

EPA PLANS ANOTHER ROUND OF BROWNFIELDS GRANTS

The US Environmental Protection Agency is planning another round of Brownfield Assessment Pilot Grants in amounts of up to \$200,000. These grants are designed to help local governments begin redeveloping abandoned or under-utilized properties where real or perceived environmental contamination has complicated redevelopment. The grants can be used for a variety of activities including: identification of sites, site assessments, planning, outreach, site investigation, and remediation planning. EPA Region 5 staff expect that the official grant announcement will appear in the Federal Register in October, and that the applications may be due in January 2000. So far, six Wisconsin communities have received EPA Brownfields Grants. EPA may award supplemental grants to communities that have already received pilot grants. To find out more about the grants, see the EPA brownfields website: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields) If you are interested in applying for one of these grants in Wisconsin, we suggest that you contact Michael Prager at DNR to assist you and to coordinate a letter of support for your application. Michael is at (608) 261-4927 or [pragem@dnr.state.wi.us](mailto:pragem@dnr.state.wi.us). Michael can also provide more general information on the EPA Brownfields Assessment Pilot grants.

DNR PARTICIPATES IN UPCOMING REGIONAL BROWNFIELDS CONFERENCES

On October 12-14 the City of Toledo and the US EPA are co-sponsoring a "Successfully Redeveloping Brownfields" conference. The conference will showcase brownfields accomplishments in the Midwest. Toledo will describe its successful redevelopment efforts, including the Daimler-Chrysler Jeep Plant and the Greenbelt Parkway. Speakers will include state, federal and local government officials as well as developers. Wisconsin DNR will be on the agenda. The conference will be at the Radisson Hotel Toledo located at 101 North Summit Street. The cost is \$200 before September 15 and \$250 after the deadline. To register or for more information see this web site: [www.toledobrownfields.com](http://www.toledobrownfields.com) or call (419) 936-3015.

On October 18-22 the US EPA, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Great Lakes Center at the University of Illinois are co-sponsoring a special training program for local governments on

brownfield redevelopment. "Brownfields Redevelopment: Nuts and Bolts for Local Governments" is being held in the Metcalfe Federal Building in downtown Chicago. This program is specially designed to give local government officials a thorough understanding of brownfield redevelopment including financial incentives, state voluntary cleanup programs, liability issues, real estate marketing and other topics. Attendees can learn how many communities have overcome obstacles and stimulated successful redevelopment. The cost is \$550. To register or for more information on this training please see this website: [www.hud.gov/local/chi/chienv2.html](http://www.hud.gov/local/chi/chienv2.html) or call Rachel Freeman at (312) 353-1696, extension 2307.

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